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monetary system of that country. There are also a few words and expressions which ought to be avoided in the next edition. Among others, "actitud civilizante" (Letter 103), and "elementos educacionales" (Letter 102).

The exercises under the heading of "Letter Outlines" are valuable, although one has to make the same criticism as before—they are all written to and come from firms of this country. But the teacher can easily avoid this, making suitable and appropriate changes.

On the whole Mr. Harrison is to be complimented for writing a book which, with the exceptions of the criticisms noted above, is good and supplies a greatly needed want.

WILLIAM HÄNSSLER

YEATMAN HIGH SCHOOL
ST. LOUIS, MO.

Selections from Irving's Sketchbook. ("Gateway Series.") Edited by MARTIN B. SAMPSON. New York: American Book Co., 1907.

Select Essays of Ralph Waldo Emerson. ("Gateway Series.") Edited by HENRY VAN DYKE. New York: American Book Co., 1907. Pp. 245.

Selections from Chaucer. ("The Lake English Classics.") Edited by EDWIN A. GREENLAW. Chicago: Scott, Foresman & Co. Pp. 316.

In his edition of Irving's *Sketchbook*, Professor Sampson follows the general course of the "Gateway Series" of English classics by making his notes simple, thorough, short and clear. Unlike many editors of English classics Professor Sampson has fresh, first-hand information which enlightens and enlivens the customary dead notes of dry interpretation. Here for instance is a note on "Propriety of Person": "No people in the world are physically so clean as the English. The belief in the daily bath is the basis of England's general health and athletic superiority. (By this latter term—it may be added for boys who are acquainted with athletic records—one does not mean the question whether England's picked university athletes may win or lose from similar American representatives in any given year: one means the fact that the *mass* of Englishmen are athletically superior to the men of the other nations)." But the editor is altogether too sparing of such readable notes: such a touch makes one wish that Professor Sampson were more lavish in his literary notes, especially in dealing with the old familiars of Irving's classics, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and "Rip Van Winkle." The volume contains a hitherto unpublished portrait of Irving by Carl Vogel von Vogelstein, sketched from life while Irving was in Dresden in 1823.

"The American Scholar," "Self-Reliance," "Compensation," "Friendship," "Prudence," "Shakespeare," and "Gifts" are the choice of Dr. Van Dyke for his *Select Essays of Emerson*. His introduction deals with Emerson's ancestry and boyhood, college life, teaching and pastorate, travel, study, and self-discovery, and with Emerson as a lecturer and as an author. That Dr. Van Dyke believes that Emerson's essays are not incoherent Delphic oracles, incapable of rhetorical analysis, is evidenced by his prefatory note to each essay. These prefatory notes give a clear, logical, and interesting analysis of each essay

in the book, noting the theme, the structure, with its orderly sequence of introduction, discussion and conclusion, thus dissipating our time-honored conception that Emerson's sentences and paragraphs are repellent particles, each a gem in itself but lacking the form of dependent, interdependent, and coherent unity. Dr. Van Dyke has done this work of analysis so well that we wish he had added more essays to his list.

Teachers of English who think that Chaucer's poetry should be read in secondary schools will be pleased with Dr. Greenlaw's *Selections from Chaucer*. By steering a clear course between the whirlpools of philology and antiquarian research, he has produced a book which will interest young readers, as far as it is possible to interest them, in the literary features of the first great English writer. The selections comprise "The Prologue," "The Knight's Tale," "The Monk's Tale" (selections), "The Nun's Priest's Tale," "The Pardoner's Tale" (condensed), and "Selections from Chaucer's Lyrics." Our chief objection to the book lies in the small type used in the notes: seven point or minion type is too minute for even strong eyes. The criticism, however, does not apply to the text type or to the type used in the glossary.

H. E. COBLENTZ

SOUTH DIVISION HIGH SCHOOL
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Linguistic Development and Education. By M. V. O'SHEA. New York: Macmillan, 1907. Pp. xviii+346. \$1.25.

It would not be fair to this book to criticize it from the standpoint of the scientific student of language development only, nor would it be fair to criticize it from the standpoint of the practical teacher as a manual of procedure. From each of these standpoints the book would be unsatisfactory, both because of what it includes and what it omits, for each would criticize what the other approves. To educators, however, who are interested in the whole problem of language-learning, from the beginning of speech to the completion of the university courses in language, the book will be very welcome. While it presents nothing radically new in science or in pedagogy it brings together the facts and principles of physiology, psychology, child-study, and pedagogical principles that have a bearing upon every stage of language-learning, more effectively than any other book known to the writer.

The author is familiar with the chief researches upon language-learning in children and the experimental studies of reading processes that have been made, and being also familiar with the language development of individual children and with educational practice in both the elementary and secondary schools of this and other countries, he is able to connect, in an illuminating way, the scientific principles with the progress of the child in language in the home and school, and show the relation of one stage of progress to another. The fact that the author has had the subject in mind in connection with his reading, his observation of children in school and his study of his own children in the home for a number of years, gives the work a peculiar value. One feels that the author is not speaking from the theoretical point of view only, but in the light of close observation and practical experience. Of the three books that